

House Study Bill 265

HOUSE FILE _____
BY (PROPOSED COMMITTEE ON
NATURAL RESOURCES BILL
BY CHAIRPERSON FREEMAN)

Passed House, Date _____ Passed Senate, Date _____
Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____ Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____
Approved _____

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to deer venison abandoned at certain
2 establishments and providing penalties.
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:
4 TLSB 2521HC 80
5 av/sh/8

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1 1 Section 1. Section 556H.1, Code 2003, is amended to read
1 2 as follows:
1 3 556H.1 UNCLAIMED DEER VENISON HELD BY A LICENSED
1 4 PROCESSING ESTABLISHMENT.
1 5 1. All deer venison deposited with an establishment
1 6 licensed pursuant to chapter 189A, ~~which remains unclaimed for~~
~~1 7 a period of two months after the establishment has attempted~~
~~1 8 to shall be claimed within six weeks after the deer venison~~
~~1 9 owner has been notified by the establishment that the deer~~
~~1 10 venison is ready to be picked up. If the deer venison is not~~
~~1 11 claimed within six weeks of such notification to the deer~~
~~1 12 venison owner, the establishment shall contact the deer~~
~~1 13 venison owner at least once by ordinary restricted certified~~
~~1 14 mail at the owner's last known mailing address, shall be~~
~~1 15 informing the deer venison owner that if the deer venison is~~
~~1 16 not claimed within two weeks, the deer venison is presumed to~~
~~1 17 be abandoned.~~
1 18 2. The establishment may submit the name and last known
1 19 address of the owner of the deer venison presumed to be
1 20 abandoned to the department of natural resources. The
1 21 department of natural resources shall adopt rules for
1 22 enforcement of this section that include imposition of a civil
1 23 penalty and a one-year suspension of all deer hunting
1 24 privileges upon a determination by the department of natural
1 25 resources that an owner of deer venison has abandoned the deer
1 26 venison under this section.
1 27 3. The establishment may dispose of the abandoned deer
1 28 venison by donating the deer venison to a local nonprofit,
1 29 charitable organization. For purposes of this section, the
1 30 term "deer" means the Cervidae or game deer excluding any farm
1 31 deer as defined in section 481A.1, subsection 20, paragraph
1 32 "h", and all donated deer venison shall include game deer
1 33 venison only and shall not be processed as a multispecies meat
1 34 food product pursuant to chapter 189A.
1 35 EXPLANATION
2 1 This bill amends Code section 556H.1 to provide that deer
2 2 venison that is deposited with an establishment licensed
2 3 pursuant to Code chapter 189A, such as a meat or poultry
2 4 cannery, sausage factory, smoking or curing operation,
2 5 restaurant, grocery store, brokerage, cold storage plant, or
2 6 similar place, must be claimed by the owner within six weeks
2 7 after the owner is notified by the establishment that the deer
2 8 venison is ready to be picked up. If the deer venison is not
2 9 claimed within six weeks of such notification, the
2 10 establishment must contact the owner of the deer venison at
2 11 least once by restricted certified mail at the owner's last
2 12 known address, informing the owner that if the deer venison is
2 13 not claimed within two weeks, the deer venison will be
2 14 presumed to be abandoned.
2 15 The bill also provides that the establishment may submit
2 16 the name and last known address of the owner of deer venison
2 17 presumed to be abandoned to the department of natural
2 18 resources. The bill provides that the department of natural
2 19 resources shall adopt rules providing for the enforcement of
2 20 the Code section including the imposition of a civil penalty
2 21 and a one-year suspension of all hunting privileges upon a
2 22 determination by the department of natural resources that an

2 23 owner of deer venison has abandoned the deer venison under the
2 24 bill.
2 25 The bill does not change the provisions of Code section
2 26 556H.1 that allow an establishment to dispose of abandoned
2 27 deer venison by donating the deer venison to a local
2 28 nonprofit, charitable organization.
2 29 LSB 2521HC 80
2 30 av/sh/8